

PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

ARTICLE DETAILS

TITLE (PROVISIONAL)	Consolidation treatments after chemoradiotherapy in patients with locally advanced inoperable non-small cell lung cancer: a systematic review and network meta-analysis protocol
AUTHORS	Zhao, Ye; feng, haiming; Tian, Jinhui; Li, Bin; Wang, Cheng; Ge, Long; Wang, Jian; Yang, Kehu; Yu, Qin

VERSION 1 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	parasnis, amit Deenanath Mangeshkar Hospital and Research Centre, Oncosurgery
REVIEW RETURNED	28-Jan-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	Interesting study
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REVIEWER	Manapov, Farkhad Klinikum der Universität München, Radiation Oncology
REVIEW RETURNED	15-Feb-2022

GENERAL COMMENTS	<p>I have read this manuscript with interest. The key issue of this analysis (protocol) has a high clinical relevance and important for planning of future clinical trials for locally-advanced NSCLC. There are also a small number of randomized studies regarding consolidation treatment in locally-advanced NSCLC. This manuscript may be considered for publication; however I will recommend additionally to assess following Points:</p> <p>Please, propose how initial staging procedure for begin of chemoradiotherapy can be included and evaluated in this analysis</p> <p>Please, propose how density of consolidation chemotherapy could be evaluated in this protocol</p> <p>Please, propose how a patient ECOG status can be evaluated in this protocol</p> <p>Please comment if a disease-free survival can be evaluated additionally to PFS and OS in this analysis</p>
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VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Reviewer 1: Thank you!

Reviewer 2:

Please, propose how initial staging procedure for begin of chemoradiotherapy can be included and

evaluated in this analysis

Answer: Thank you for your opinion. After discussion, we think in the staging procedure, PET-CT scan (Yes or No) may be a variable which might influence the prognosis of patients. So we will explore the influence of the factor using subgroup analyses. We will complete subgroup analysis for patients who underwent diagnostic PET staging and who did not undergo PET scan. We have added this point in the Subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses section.

Please, propose how density of consolidation chemotherapy could be evaluated in this protocol

Answer: Thank you for your opinion. Because this is a network meta-analysis, different treatment regimens (different consolidation drugs \pm different CCRTs) will be treated as independent groups. In this situation, we will not consider the density of treatment. But following your advice, in some cases if there are completely identical treatment regimens except different densities and doses of treatment drugs, we will complete subgroup analyses to investigate the influence of doses and densities of treatments, for example, divide the treatments into high doses versus low doses, high density regimens versus low density regimens (e.g., \leq q21d versus $>$ q21d). We have added this point in the Subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses section.

Please, propose how a patient ECOG status can be evaluated in this protocol

Answer: Thank you for your opinion. We will complete subgroup analysis about ECOG status (e.g. 0 versus \geq 1). We have added the point in the Subgroup analyses and sensitivity analyses section.

Please comment if a disease-free survival can be evaluated additionally to PFS and OS in this analysis

Answer: Thank you for your opinion. We have added DFS in secondary outcomes.

VERSION 2 – REVIEW

REVIEWER	Manapov, Farkhad Klinikum der Universität München, Radiation Oncology
REVIEW RETURNED	11-Mar-2022
GENERAL COMMENTS	I have no other questions and recommend to accept a revised manuscript for publication.